GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:612
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Kendriya Bhandar main bhi bhrshtacharka bolbala` appearing in the Rashtriya Sahara dated 21 October, 2000;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the details of the officials who are suspended during the last year giving reasons thereof and the present status thereof and if suspension revoked by now, the reasons for that and the action has been taken against those employees;

(d) whether there is rampant corruption and nepotism and irregularities in the matter of transfers and postings, selection of suppliers and items and defective purchase policy and the inability of the management to strengthen the vigilance unit to fight against the corruption; and

(e) if so, the action propose to be taken to set things right in the Bhandar?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF DEPARTMENT OF PERSNNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS PENSIONERS` WELFARE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT.VASUN RAJE)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The news item refered to in the Rashtriya Sahara dated 21.10.2000 is based on discussions which a Reporter has had with the officials of Kendriya Bhandar but some of the facts stated therein are not fully correct.

(c): Two Chowkidars were suspended in June, 2000 when there was an attempt of theft in the Stationery Division at `P` Block while they were on duty. Their suspension was, however, revoked after about one week as a result of preliminary inquiry which revealed that they were not at fault. A Senior Manager was also suspended in December, 1999 for about one week to enable him to learn basics relating to code numbers. However, a Senior Salesman who was suspended in June, 2000 owing to huge shortages in the strore where he was posted as in-charge still remains under suspension. Besides, the services of Regional Managers of Lucknow, Mumbai and Faridabad and two officials at Mumbai and Delhi Zones were dispensed with as they had committed serious lapses.

(d)&(e): Kendriya Bhandar has a full fledged Vigilance Unit to investigate and take care of corruption and other related matters. The strength of the Vigilance Unit is commensurate with its workload.

The items of inventory and suppliers are selected after necessary screening in accordance with the approved purchase policy.

The transfers and postings are made in the Kendriya Bhandar as objectively as possible and in accordance with the transfer policy approved by the Board.